

# Policing in Newark is Broken.

**“Repeated civil rights violations make policing less effective and more dangerous.”**

—United States Department of Justice

The Newark Police Department (NPD) is in urgent need of reform. After a three-year civil rights investigation of the NPD, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) found widespread constitutional violations in the department's police practices. In July 2014, the DOJ announced it would be entering into a formal consent decree with Newark to reform the NPD and would be appointing a federal monitor to oversee critical changes.

The DOJ investigation revealed years of widespread civil rights violations by the NPD impacting tens of thousands of Newark residents.

## 75% OF STOPS LACK CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS

The Newark Police Department made thousands of stops of individuals who were described merely as milling around, wandering, or loitering.

**Newark's Population:**  
54% black. 85% of  
pedestrian stops are  
of black residents.

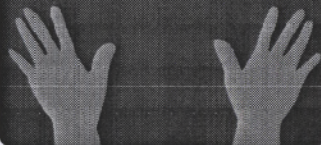
(2009-June 2012)



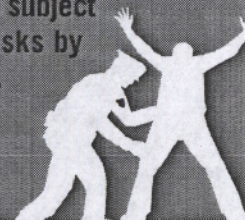
Black residents are  
2.5 times more likely  
on average to be  
subjected to pedestrian  
stops.



Black residents are  
2.7 times more likely  
to be subject to  
searches by NPD.



Black residents are  
3.1 times more likely  
to be subject  
to frisks by  
NPD.



### FIRST AMENDMENT

- DOJ found evidence of retaliation against people engaged in First Amendment protected activities.
- Newark police have detained and arrested Newarkers who have lawfully objected to police actions in a way that police officers perceived as disrespectful.



### USE OF FORCE

- More than 20% of reported NPD force incidents were unconstitutional.
- From 2007 to 2012, NPD Internal Affairs sustained **ONLY ONE** excessive force allegation out of hundreds.
- NPD investigations of 29 out of 29 officer-involved shootings were incomplete.



Source: "Investigation of the Newark Police Department" by the United States Department of Justice Civil Rights Division

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